EXCISE

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DRAFTED BY L/ARA:MKOZAK;ARA/CAR:AHEWITT:JV;BGT;NLF
APPROVED BY ARA - BGROVE, JR.
H:ETAYLOR
L:LMARKS (SUBS)
L/CA:RDALTON (SUBS)
HFAC:GBERDES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 2/26/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED
~~106651 0203056 /83~~

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O 020138Z MAR 79
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE
C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 050207
E.O. 12065 GDS, 3/1/85 (GROVE, BRANDON)
TAGS: OREP, PINS, GY
SUBJECT: HFAC INVESTIGATION OF ASSASSINATION OF
CONGRESSMAN RYAN
1. (C ENTIRE TEXT)

[redacted]

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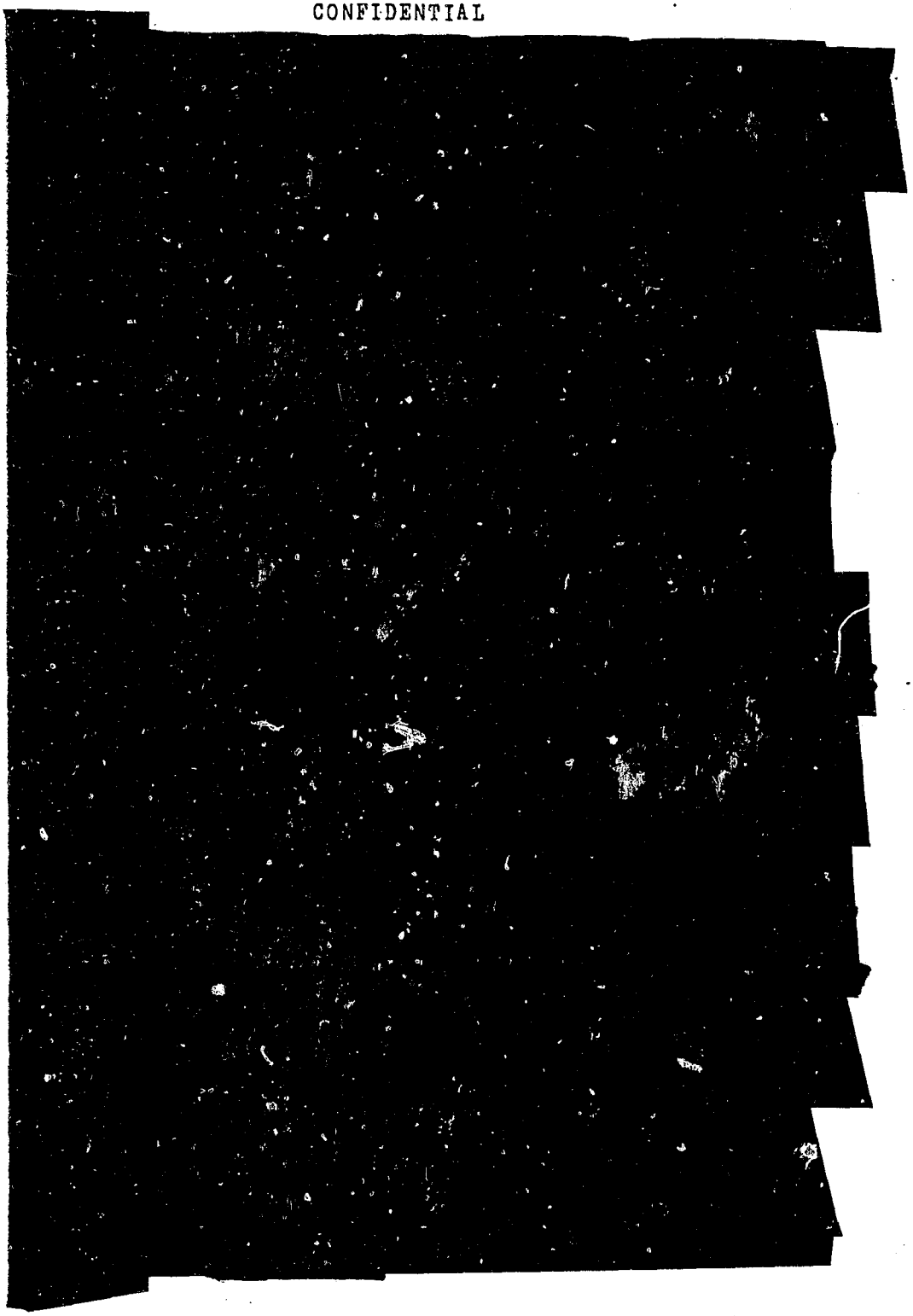

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10. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:
DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:
I AM WRITING YOU IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRAGIC EVENTS OF NOVEMBER 18, 1978, WHICH HAVE AFFECTED BOTH OUR COUNTRIES. THE DEATH OF REPRESENTATIVE LEO J. RYAN, A MEMBER OF THIS COMMITTEE, AND THE EVENTS AT JONESTOWN, GUYANA, HAVE SERIOUSLY DISTRESSED THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.
IN THIS RESPECT, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO YOU AND THE GUYANESE PEOPLE FOR THE EXPRESSION OF DEEP SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO ME IN MY OFFICE AT A MEETING REQUESTED BY AMBASSADOR LAURENCE MANN SHORTLY AFTER THE TRAGEDY. AT THAT TIME, AMBASSADOR MANN ALSO PLEDGED THE FULL COOPERATION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT IN OUR MUTUALLY DESIRABLE INTERESTS TO FULLY INVESTIGATE THIS TRAGIC EVENT.
DURING OUR MEETING, I ADVISED AMBASSADOR MANN THAT IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN NECESSARY INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVENTS OF NOVEMBER 18, I HAD ORDERED A COMMITTEE STAFF INVESTIGATION INTO ALL OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH MIGHT HAVE A BEARING ON THE DEATH OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN. THAT INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN UNDERWAY SINCE NOVEMBER 21, 1978, AND HAS INCLUDED INTERVIEWS WITH MORE THAN 50 PERSONS BOTH HERE IN WASHINGTON AND IN CALIFORNIA.
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THE COMMITTEE STAFF INQUIRY HAS NOW REACHED THE POINT AT WHICH THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES IT NECESSARY TO TALK WITH VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT I AM THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING YOUR COOPERATION IN AGREEING TO ALLOW OUR STAFF GROUP TO INTERVIEW CERTAIN GUYANESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 11, 1979. UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR HOPEFULLY POSITIVE REPLY TO THIS REQUEST IT IS MY URGENT DESIRE THAT THIS INVESTIGATION CAN BE COMPLETED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
IF YOU AGREE, I WILL CONTACT AMBASSADOR MANN TO INFORM HIM OF THE PEOPLE WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE, AND TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY PROCEDURES FOR CARRYING OUT THE INTERVIEWS.
SINCERELY YOURS, CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI, CHAIRMAN. VANCE
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